Message Text

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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EB-07 /103 W

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R 290650Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5260

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, YO, PORG

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO PAKISTAN

SUMMARY: THE GOP WAS PLEASED BY THE FACT THAT MINIC VISITED PAKISTAN AND BY THE WAY THE TALKS WITH HIM WENT OFF. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE STRESSED AREAS OF AGREEMENT, AND THE PRESS, BRIEFED BY THE PAK FOREIGN SECRETARY, ALSO EMPHASIZED THE POSITIVE. THE PAKS EXPLAINED TO THE VISITORS THEIR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE CRITERIA FOR NAM MEMBERSHIP BUT DID NOT SEEK GOY SUPPORT FOR ENTRY. THEY ARE UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT THE MINIC VISIT SIGNALS ANY BASIC CHANGE IN WHAT THEY REGARD AS THE FUNDAMENTALLY PRO-INDIAN POSITION OF THE GOY BUT FEEL THEY MADE SOME DENT IN YUGOSLAV THINKING. THE YUGOSLAVS HERE HAVE ALSO HAILED THE SUCCESS OF THE TALKS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE GOP WAS PLEASED BOTH BY THE FACT OF YUGOSLAV CONFIDENTIAL

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FOREIGN MINISTER MINIC'S APRIL 16-18 VISIT TO PAKISTAN

AND BY THE WAY THE DISCUSSIONS HE HELD WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS CAME OFF. THE VISIT RECEIVED EXCELLENT NOTICES IN THE PRESS AND WAS THE SUBJECT OF A SPATE OF FAVORABLE EDITORIALS EXTOLLING THE BENEFITS TO PAKISTAN OF ITS GROWING TIES WITH BELGRADE. THE PRESS WAS GIVEN ITS LEAD BY FOREIGN SECRETARY AGHA SHAHI, WHO AS AN ANONYMOUS "FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN" BRIEFED NEWSMEN ABOUT THE "HIGHLY POSITIVE PURPOSE" SERVED BY THE VISIT.

- 2. THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MINIC VISIT STRESSED THE AREAS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. IT NOTED THE CONCURRENCE OF PAK AND YUGOSLAV VIEWS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES --COLONIALISM, RACIALISM, "EXTENSION OF THE RIVALRY OF THE GREAT POWERS TO NEW AREAS," ESCALATION IN THE GLOBAL ARMS RACE, THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE URGENCY OF AMELIORATING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT THE DECLARATION FOR A ZONE OF PEACE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE ELIMINATION OF GREAT POWER RIVALRY, ALL FOREIGN MILITARY BASES AND ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND A COMMITMENT BY ALL THE STATES CONCERNED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. REAFFIRMING THEIR ADHERENCE TO THE GOAL OF GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT, THEY AGREED ON THE VALUE OF A SPECIAL UNGA SESSION ON DISARMAMENT AND EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY OF LIMITATION IN STRATEGIC ARMAMENTS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPON-FREE ZONES, AND PROHIBITION OF ALL CHEMICAL WEAPONS. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO INCLUDED THE RITUAL INVITATION TO PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO TO RECIPROCATE THE VISIT; THIS WAS ACCEPTED WITH THE RITUAL EXPRESSION OF PLEASURE.
- 3. IN HIS BRIEFING, AGHA SHAHI NOTED (AND WITH GOOD REASON) THAT IN THE PAST THERE HAD BEEN A CLEAVAGE ON MATTERS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO BOTH THE COUNTRIES BUT THAT AS A RESULT OF THE MINIC VISIT MUTUAL COMPREHENSION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS AND INTERESTS HAD BEEN GREATLY ENLARGED. HE SAID THAT PM BHUTTO HAD TOLD CONFIDENTIAL.

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MINIC THAT PAKISTAN WAS READY TO EXPAND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS IN ALL FIELDS, PARTICULARLY THE POLITICAL. HE ADMITTED THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD DIFFERENCES OVER THE QUESTIONS OF SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR COUNTRIES, THE CRITERIA FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP, AND THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF "SOME ZONES." DESPITE THIS LAST CAVEAT, THE GOP-OWNED PAKISTAN TIMES EDITORIALIZED ON

THE BASIS OF THE COMMUNIQUE THAT "THE YUGOSLAV SIDE CAME VERY CLOSE TO PAKISTAN'S POSITION ON ESTABLISHING A NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN SOUTH ASIA" AND OUR SOURCES AMONG MFA PARTICIPANTS IN THE DISCUSSIONS ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAD COME AS FAR AS THEY HAD ON THIS ISSUE SO IMPORTANT TO THE GOP.

4. THE COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT THE GOY REPS BRIEFED THE PAKS ON THE FORTHCOMING COLOMBO SUMMIT, AND OUR MFA CONTACTS ATTEST THAT THE GOP SIDE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING WITH A CHARTER NAM COUNTRY FOREIGN MINISTER TO VOICE ITS OBJECTION TO THE GROUP'S SELECTION PROCESS. THE PAKS REITERATED THEIR FAMILIAR CONTENTION THAT IT MADE NO SENSE TO EXCLUDE COUNTRIES INVOLVED

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R 290650Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5261 INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE AMEMBASSY COLOMBO AMEMBASSY KABUL AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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IN MULTILATERAL LINKS WITH THE SUPER POWERS WHILE ADMITTING THOSE WITH BILATERAL TIES. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY REASSERTED THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN GOING TO THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE EITHER AS OBSERVERS

OR GUESTS AND DID NOT APPROACH THE YUGOSLAVS FOR SUPPORT. (THE PAKS ARE REALISTIC ABOUT THEIR PROSPECTS AND RECOGNIZE THAT ANY BID ON THEIR PART FOR OBSERVER/GUEST STATUS WOULD LEAD TO AN INDIAN BLACKBALL AND A DIPLOMATIC SETBACK. THE POSITION THEY TOOK WITH THE YUGOSLAVS IS THE CUSTOMARY ONE THEY ADOPT IN DISCUSSIONS ON THE NAM -- THAT PAKISTAN IS IN FACT NON-ALIGNED, THAT AS SUCH IT CANNOT ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN FULL MEMBER STATUS, BUT THAT GIVEN THE PRESENT UNCREASONABLE RULES IT SEES NO PURPOSE IN TRYING TO GET IN. AT THE SAME TIME. THE GOP IS MAKING STRONG EFFORTS TO BRING ITS INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON FRIENDLY NAM MEMBERS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR TAKING POSITIONS FAVORABLE TO PAKISTAN'S INTERESTS IN VARIOUS KEY AREAS WHEN THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE CON-VENES.) CONFIDENTIAL

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5. OUR MFA SOURCES TELL US THAT THE GOP EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER AN ARTICLE AUTHORED BY A GOY FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL ON "STRATEGY FOR PEACE AND SECURITY" WHICH ACCORDING TO THE PAKS CALLED FOR UNITED ACTION BY THE NON-ALIGNED TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF PROGRESSIVE AND NON-ALIGNED GOVERNMENTS. THE GOP SAW IN THIS PROPOSAL THE DANGER OF INTERVENTION BY BLOCS OF NON-ALIGNED POWERS AGAINST OTHERS ALLEGED (BY THEM) TO BE STRAYING FROM THE NON-ALIGNED PROGRESSIVE PATH (E.G., NON ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR AN INDIAN MOVE AGAINST BANGLADESH) OR AGAINST "ALIGNED" THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WITH DISPUTES AGAINST NON-ALIGNED ONES (E.G., SUPPORT FOR AFGHANISTAN AGAINST PAKISTAN). ACCORDING TO THE PAKS, THE YUGOSLAVS PROTESTED THAT WHAT THEY HAD IN MIND WAS ONLY NON-ALIGNED UNITED ACTION AGAINST THREATS FROM THE IMPERIALISTS AND COLONIALISTS.

6. THE PAKS SAY THAT THE TWO SIDES DIFFERED SHARPLY IN THEIR DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA. THE YUGOSLAVS SUPPORTED THE SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION ON GROUNDS WHICH MUST BE FAMILIAR TO THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY BELGRADE, SINCE THE YUGOSLAVS SAID THEY HAD MADE THE SAME PITCH TO AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN. THE PAKS, WHO SEE IN THE ANGOLA EVENTS THE SPECTRE OF SIMILAR INTERVENTIONS IN THIS AREA, COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH THIS ASSESSMENT. ACCORDING TO THE PAKS, THE THREAT THT BOTH COUNTRIES FEEL FROM MOSCOW WENT UNMENTIONED DURING THE MEETING, EXCEPT FOR A CHANCE YUGOSLAV REMARK THAT "WE FACE THE SAME SECURITY SITUATION." (THE REACTION OF ONE OF OUR PAK INFORMANTS TO THIS WAS THAT HE CERTAINLY HOPED PAKISTAN WAS BETTER OFF IN THIS REGARD THAN YUGOSLAVIA.)

FURTHER ON THE SOVIETS, OUR PAK SOURCES EXPRESSED SURPRISE TO US AT THE STRONG SUPPORT THE YUGOSLAVS GAVE TO DETENTE, WHICH ACCORDING TO THESE PAKS WAS COUCHED IN THE SAME TERMS USED WITH THEM BY THE SOVIETS. THEY SAY THE YUGOSLAVS IMPLICITLY SUPPORTED THE SOVIET CALL FOR AN ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY TREATY.

7. THE PAKS ARE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS THAT THE MINIC CONFIDENTIAL

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VISIT SIGNALS ANY BASIC CHANGE IN WHAT THEY REGARD AS THE FUNDAMENTALLY PRO-INDIAN POSITION OF THE GOY. BUT THEY DO FEEL THAT THEY MAN HAVE MADE SOME DENT IN YUGOSLAV THINKING AND THAT THE TWO SIDES CAN ACHIEVE BETTER RELATIONS WHILE NOT NECESSARILY SUPPORTING ALL THE POSITIONS TAKEN BY EACH OTHER IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND ELSEWHERE. THIS IS, THEY POINT OUT, THE ESSENCE OF BHUTTO BILATERALISM. THEY ALSO EXPRESS PLEASURE THAT MINIC DECIDED TO STOP IN PAKISTAN ON A VISIT WHICH WAS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE NAM. THEY SEE THIS AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF PAKISTAN'S RECOVERY AS A POWER WORTH CULTIVATING.

8. THE YUGOSLAVS HERE HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH, HENCE THE LATE FILING OF THIS MESSAGE. THEIR AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN ILL SINCE THE MINIC VISIT. WE FINALLY CONTACTED A SECOND SECRETARY, THE ONLY OTHER DIPLOMATIC OFFICER AT THEIR SMALL MISSION HERE, AND HE CONFIRMED MANY OF THE POINTS MENTIONED TO US BY THE PAKS. THE YUGOSLAV STRESSED GOY SATISFACTION WITH THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT AND WITH THE PRESENT STATE OF YUGO-PAK RELATIONS. ASKED ABOUT GOY ATTITUDES TOWARD REGIONAL SECURITY PROBLEMS, HE STRESSED THE CALL FOR THE REMOVAL OF GREAT POWER BASES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM THE AREA. HE FINESSED A QUESTION ABOUT GOY VIEWS OF THE GOP PROPOSAL ON THE SOUTH ASIA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE.

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